Docket No. 000004.00680

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inste application of: Tsutomu SAKURAI et al.

GAU: 2874 Serial No: 10/646,841 Confirmation No. 1469 Filed: August 25, 2003 Examiner: Unassigned

For: OPTICAL FIBER ASSEMBLY HAVING HERMETIC SEAL PORTION AND METHOD FOR

MAKING THE SAME

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information

	r pproduit(e) their te cleares the renewing internation.
REFE	The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references. A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).
RELA	ATED CASES Attached is a copy of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. These documents are listed on form PTO-1449, also attached. A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).
CER'	Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject patent application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
PETI	TION

Applicant(s) hereby request consideration of the attached information. A check is attached in the amount of the Petition fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1).

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 23-2185. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Blank Rome LLP 600 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20037 Tel: (202) 772-5800 Fax (202) 572-8398 Customer No.: 27557

Date: December 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. White Attorney of Record Registration No. 32,795 DEC 2 3 2004 W

PTO/SB/08a Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/646,841			
Filing Date	August 25, 2003			
First Named Inventor	Tsutomu SAKURAI et al.			
Art Unit	2874			
Examiner Name	Unassigned	·····		
Attorney Docket Number	000004 00680			

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	<u> </u>	US-2002/0051617	May 2, 2002	Khan et al.	r iguico / tppear
	<u> </u>	US-5,305,413	April 19, 1994	Payne	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³⁻ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶		
		DE 36 28 391	02/25/1988	Licentia GmbH				
			l					

<u> </u>		 	
Examiner		 Date	
Signature		Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE pond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Complete if Known Application Number 10/646,841 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date August 25, 2003 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Tsutomu SAKURAI et al. (Use as many sheets as necessary) Art Unit 2874 Examiner Name Unassigned Attorney Docket Number Sheet 000004.00680

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²				
		"Strain Relief for Optical Fibers at Entrance or Exit From a Duct," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, IBM Corp., New York, US, Vol. 32, No. 11, 1 April 1990, pages 389-390.					
		European Search Report, December 1, 2004					
Examiner Signature		Date Considered					

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.